

4-21-1975

Administrative Notes, April 21st, 1975

University of Texas at Tyler

TYLER STATE COLLEGE

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TYLER, TEXAS 75701

April 21, 1975

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

TELEPHONE 214 595-0711

To: Board of Regents, Tyler State College

From: James H. Stewart, Jr. 

Subject: Administrative Notes

I. Appropriations Information

Problems have developed in the appropriations process in the House of Representatives. Succinctly stated, the House Appropriations Committee, upon receiving the recommendations of the House Higher Education Committee, voted overwhelmingly (16 to 2) to reject most of the Higher Education Committee's recommendations.

The general effect of this action means that the Appropriations Committee will revert to the Legislative Budget Board recommendations and the Legislative Budget Board's recommendations will serve as a working document from which the Appropriations Committee will write its bill. Hopefully, as this work moves forward, we will still be able to obtain the extra operating money and two buildings for our institution.

To give you some idea of the situation which resulted in rejection of the Higher Education Committee's recommendations, I enclose a newspaper article from the April 13, 1975 Austin American-Statesman and another article from the April 17, 1975 Tyler Courier-Times. These articles, certainly, point up the significance of why it was suggested at our board luncheon on March 9, 1975 that appreciation be expressed to the Higher Education Committee on the basis of progress to that point. As you will recall, it was emphasized that this was only the beginning step and a great deal of work would remain for us to be successful in our effort.

The speculation in Austin is that the problem between the Appropriations and Higher Education Committees has slowed the appropriations process down considerably and it is now estimated that a final appropriations bill will not be written in the House of Representatives for four to six weeks. I am keeping in close contact with the appropriations situation and will keep you apprised.

II. Master of Business Administration Approval

At the April 18, 1975 meeting in Austin of the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, the board approved the Master of Business Administration Degree for Tyler State College. During a meeting of the Coordinating Board's Program Development Committee the day before (April 17, 1975), Dr. George Joyce, dean of the School of Business, and I presented the case for this graduate degree and it met with very favorable response and unanimous approval by the committee to recommend the degree to the full board the following day. The full board also gave unanimous approval to the degree at its meeting.

This degree, of course, will mean a great deal to our institution as we reported to you when the Board of Regents approved the degree on January 8, 1975. It is expected that the first course work for this degree can be initiated as early as this summer. Certainly, course work will be offered no later than the 1975 Fall Semester.

The degree approval is a very significant step forward for the institution and will enhance our graduate efforts considerably. Dean Joyce and the entire School of Business faculty are to be commended for their diligent efforts in their work on this degree program.

III. Name Change Status

Upon contacting Senator Peyton McKnight's office Friday (April 18, 1975), I was informed that the institutional name change will most likely be acted on in the Texas Senate next Thursday (April 24, 1975). Senator McKnight expects the bill to be passed on the local and consent calendar as it was in the House of Representatives.

Peyton has been ill for the last several days and, as a result, action on our name change has been delayed. Of course, it is the Senator's desire to be present when the bill is acted upon.

IV. Recommendation Relative to Vice President for Academic Affairs

I am conducting an interview today with the final candidate for the Vice President for Academic Affairs position before being ready to make a recommendation to the Academic and Personnel Committee of the Board of Regents. Upon completing this interview, I will consider the various applicants and provide the Academic and Personnel Committee with my recommendation.

The goal that I stated to the board earlier, which was to make a decision concerning an individual to fill this position in time to

have the new vice president on duty by June 1, 1975, is still valid. In order to accomplish this, it will be necessary to work with the Academic and Personnel Committee and the board in the very near future to effect final board approval.

This matter has been discussed with both Board Chairman C. Quentin Abernathy and Academic and Personnel Committee Chairman Dr. B.H. McVicker. I have suggested to Regents Abernathy and McVicker that the Academic and Personnel Committee gather at 5:15 p.m. on Sunday, April 27, 1975 at Willow Brook Country Club to visit informally with the candidate whom I will recommend and that the full Board of Regents gather at 6:45 p.m. on the same day for dinner. Wives of regents, of course, will be included for the 6:45 p.m. dinner and it is hoped that wives of Academic and Personnel Committee members will accompany their husbands to the earlier meeting and have an opportunity to visit with the vice presidential candidate's wife during the period of time between 5:15 and 6:45 p.m. My wife will also be present during that period.

Chairman Abernathy is calling a meeting of the Board of Regents on Wednesday, April 30, 1975 to consider official action on the vice presidential recommendation along with a few other matters that need attention at that time. The agenda for this meeting will be sent later this week.

A summary of the above information follows:

Sunday, April 27, 1975

5:15 to 6:45 p.m.

Academic and Personnel Committee will visit informally with the academic vice presidential candidate at Willow Brook Country Club. Wives of committee members are invited to meet and visit with the candidate's wife during this period of time.

6:45 p.m.

All members of the Board of Regents and wives are invited to join the Academic and Personnel Committee and the vice presidential candidate and his wife for dinner.

Wednesday, April 30, 1975

1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Board of Regents Committee meetings in the college board room.

2:30 p.m.

Called meeting by Chairman C. Quentin Abernathy of the Board of Regents in the college board room.

*4:00 or 4:30 p.m. News conference in college auditorium for the purposes of announcing and introducing the newly-appointed institutional Vice President for Academic Affairs, his wife and family.

*After the Sunday social function, I would hope to plan this news conference to which faculty, students, staff and the general public, along with the news media, would be invited.

V. Spring Picnic Date Changed

As you may have noticed in last weeks Intercom, the date of our Spring Picnic has been changed from April 26 to May 3, 1975 at Fun Forest. I am hopeful that board members and their wives can attend on this date.

VI. Report from Resident Engineer

Attached is a report from our Director of Physical Plant and Resident Engineer for the week ending April 18, 1975.

VII. Expenditures for Period Ending March 31, 1975

Attached is a copy of the expenditures for Tyler State College for the period ending March 31, 1975 for your information and files.

JHS:rc

Attachments